

Letter from Lyon Playfair to Alexander Graham Bell, December 10, 1877

Copy of a letter to Dr. Bell from Lyon Playfair on concerning a proposed Exhibition of the Telephone to the Queen. Letter on file in "Dr Bell's Rom' Buckingham Palace Hotel, S. W. Dec. 10, 1877. Private and Confidential Dear Sir:

I enclose you confidentially a reply to a letter which I wrote to Sir Thomas Biddulph suggesting that Her Majesty might like to see your telephone in operation. I thought that this would be regarded by you as the inventor in the light of a compliment and that in England it would promote the success of your undertaking.

When you have read the reply please return it to me. Should you want to show the telephone to Her Majesty at Osborne, I would suggest that a wire might be laid down between Osborne and one of the cottages on the estate, say that of Sir Thomas Biddulph. Possibly it would be more remarkable if it were in connection with the submarine wire to Southampton Docks or the Admiralty Station at Portsmouth.

Yours truly, Lyon Playfair. If you wish to see me, I am here every day (except Thursday) between 10 and 11.